

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/627,759  
Response filed May 4, 2005  
Reply to OA dated February 11, 2005

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1           Claim 1 (currently amended): A steam-supplying apparatus for hairdressing and beauty care,  
2 comprising: in which pressurized steam is sent from  
3           a steam-generating portion;  
4           an electromagnetic valve;  
5           a connecting tube;  
6           a steam-blowing portion, the steam-generating portion sending pressurized steam through  
7 [[an]] the electromagnetic valve and [[a]] the connecting tube, and forcibly ~~blown~~ blowing the steam  
8 out of [[a]] the steam-blowing portion, the electromagnetic valve being disposed between the tube  
9 and the steam-generating portion, the tube being flexible and being disposed between the  
10 electromagnetic valve and the steam-blowing portion; comprising:  
11           a heating steam circulation passage, disposed in the electromagnetic valve, conveying the  
12 steam from the steam-generating portion through the electromagnetic valve and then to a return pipe,  
13 [[to]] preliminarily [[heat]] heating an inside of the electromagnetic valve with the steam from the  
14 steam-generating portion [[also]] when the electromagnetic valve is in a closed state of the

15 ~~electromagnetic valve~~; and

16 an electric heater, disposed in the steam-blowing portion, to heat a ~~steam passage~~  
17 vaporization space in the steam-blowing portion, the electric heater changing water drops to steam  
18 in the vaporization space.

1 Claim 2 (currently amended): The steam-supplying apparatus for hairdressing and beauty  
2 care as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~[[a]]~~ the vaporization space is disposed on ~~[[the]]~~ a steam  
3 passage in the blowing portion, and the electric heater is disposed near the vaporization space.

1 Claim 3 (original): The steam-supplying apparatus for hairdressing and beauty care as set  
2 forth in claim1 or claim 2, wherein the steam-generating portion has a boiler to generate the steam,  
3 and a pressure-reducing valve is disposed on a steam passage between the boiler and the  
4 electromagnetic valve.

1 Claim 4 (currently amended): A steam-supplying apparatus, comprising:  
2 a steam-generating portion generating steam;  
3 an electromagnetic valve receiving the steam from the steam-generating portion, the  
4 electromagnetic valve forming a heating steam circulation passage inside the electromagnetic valve  
5 to heat the inside of the electromagnetic valve with the steam from the steam-generating portion  
6 when the electromagnetic valve is in a closed state;

7 a tube receiving the steam from the electromagnetic valve, the tube being flexible;  
8 a steam-blowing portion receiving the steam from the tube; and  
9 an electric heater being disposed in the steam-blowing portion to heat a vaporization space  
10 of a steam passage in the steam-blowing portion, the electric heater changing water drops to steam  
11 in the vaporization space, the steam-blowing portion outputting steam and not water drops.

1 Claim 5 (previously presented): The steam-supplying apparatus of claim 4, further  
2 comprising a return pipe in communication with the heating steam circulation passage, with some  
3 of the steam from the steam-generating portion passing through the heating steam circulation passage  
4 and the return pipe when the electromagnetic valve is in the closed state and when the  
5 electromagnetic valve is in an open state.

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